

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

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Ex parte DUANE A. LUNSFORD  
and  
JIMMIE RAE BARAN, JR.

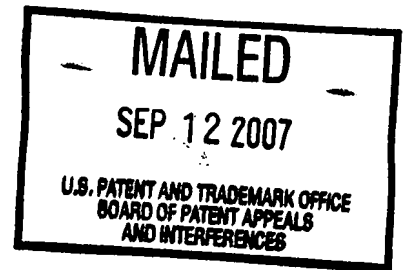
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Application 10/689,172

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ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

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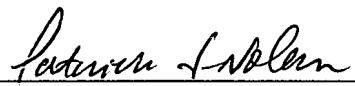
A Supplemental Examiner's Answer was mailed on September 4, 2007, in response to the Panel Remand mailed April 30, 2007. However, this Answer is deficient pursuant to § 1207.05 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) (Eighth Edition, Rev. 3, August 2005) which states that "[e]very supplemental examiner's answer must be approved by a Technology Center (TC) Director or designee." It should be noted that TC 1700 allows approval by the Director or a Quality Assurance Specialist (QAS). Correction is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

- 1) for obtaining the signature of the TC Director or QAS on the Supplemental Examiner's Answer mailed September 4, 2007; and
- 2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

By:   
PATRICK J. NOLAN  
Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator  
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PJN:psb

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